APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/811,541	03/29/2004	Robert T. Uthe	4541-019	2249

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EXAMINER
WONG, WILLIAM

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2178	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/23/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 10/06)

	Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
		10/811,541	UTHE ET AL.
		Examiner	Art Unit
		William Wong	2178

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>29 March 2004</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-19</u> is/are pending in the application.

     4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-19</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>29 March 2004</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

     a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

         1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

         2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

         3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

     * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>03/29/2004</u>.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to: Application filed on March 29, 2004; IDS filed on March 29, 2004. Claims 1-19 are pending and have been examined.

Information Disclosure Statement

1.   The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted was filed on 03/29/2004. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Specification

2.   The use of the trademarks has been noted in this application (in paragraph 12 of page 3). It should be capitalized wherever it appears and be accompanied by the generic terminology.

Although the use of trademarks is permissible in patent applications, the proprietary nature of the marks should be respected and every effort made to prevent their use in any manner which might adversely affect their validity as trademarks.

Claim Objections

3.   Claim 15 is objected to because of the following informalities:

- Claim 15 references claim 17. A series of singular dependent claims is permissible in which a dependent claim refers to a *preceding* claim which, in turn, refers to another preceding claim. A claim which depends from a dependent

claim should not be separated by any claim which does not also depend from

said dependent claim. It should be kept in mind that a dependent claim may

refer to any preceding independent claim. In general, applicant's sequence will

not be changed. See MPEP § 608.01(n).

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly
claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5.   Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite

for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant

regards as the invention.

6.   As per claim 3, the phrases "about 115% to about 130%" and "about 70% to

about 85%" in claim 3 are relative phrases which renders the claim indefinite. The

phrases are not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for

ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be

reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8.   Claims 1-2, 5-9, and 11-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Slatter (US 2003/0025812 A1).

As per independent claim 1, Slatter teaches **a method of zooming in/out a**

current display of a visualization of resources (in paragraph 1), **each said resource**

having zero or more attributes (in paragraphs 15-16 and 35-36), **and each resource**

being a resource of interest if it has at least one attribute that matches

predetermined criteria (in paragraphs 15-16 and 35-36), **comprising: computing a**

future display area zoomed in/out from said current display by an initial factor (in

paragraph 15, *generates crop boundaries for each area of interest* and in paragraph 26-

27, *view that area of interest with a level of zoom selected automatically by the image*

processor or determined by the user); **positioning said future display area over said**

visualization to include the largest possible number of resources of interest (in

paragraph 28, *include as many of the areas of interest as possible*); **and replacing said**

current display with a view of said future display area (in paragraph 14 and

paragraph 29, *shows each of the views in turn*).

As per claim 2, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and Slatter further teaches

following positioning said future display area, further zooming in/out said future

display area until resources of interest are proximate at least two edges of said

future display area (figure 2, paragraph 28, and paragraph 50).

As per claim 5, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and Slatter further teaches

wherein said initial factor is predetermined (in paragraph 26).

As per claim 6, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and Slatter further teaches **wherein said initial factor is specified by a user** (in paragraph 26).

As per claim 7, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and Slatter further teaches **wherein said resources of interest are visually distinguished in said current display** (in paragraph 25).

As per claim 8, the rejection of claim 7 is incorporated and Slatter further teaches **wherein said resources of interest are visually distinguished by displaying indicia of interest associated with said resources** (in paragraph 25).

As per claim 9, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and Slatter further teaches **wherein said attributes that match predetermined criteria are predetermined** (in paragraphs 16, 35-36, and 49).

As per claim 11, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and Slatter further teaches **wherein said resources of interest have different degrees of priority, wherein at least one said resource of interest has a higher priority than at least one other resource of interest** (in paragraphs 35-36).

As per claim 12, the rejection of claim 11 is incorporated and Slatter further teaches **wherein positioning said future display area to include the largest possible number of resources of interest comprises positioning said future display area to include the largest possible number of resources having said higher priority** (in paragraphs 28 and 35-36).

As per claim 13, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and Slatter further teaches **wherein, if said future display area cannot include more than one**

resource of interest, positioning said future display area to include the largest

possible number of resources of interest comprises positioning said future

display area such that a single resource of interest is centered in said future

display area (in paragraphs 50).

As per independent claim 14, Slatter teaches **a method of zooming in a current**

display of a visualization of resources (in paragraph 1), **each said resource having**

zero or more attributes (in paragraphs 15-16 and 35-36), **and each resource being a**

resource of interest if it has at least one attribute that matches predetermined

criteria (in paragraphs 15-16 and 35-36), **comprising: computing a future display**

area zoomed in from said current display by an initial factor (in paragraph 15,

generates crop boundaries for each area of interest and in paragraph 26-27, *view that*

area of interest with a level of zoom selected automatically by the image processor or

selected by the user); **positioning said future display area over said visualization to**

encompass the largest possible number of resources of interest (in paragraph 28,

include as many of the areas of interest as possible); **if the largest possible number**

of resources of interest that said future display area can encompass is one,

positioning said future display area such that said one resource of interest is

centered in said future display area (in paragraphs 50); **and replacing said current**

display with a view of said future display area (in paragraph 14 and paragraph 29,

shows each of the views in turn).

As per independent claim 16, Slatter teaches **a computer system, comprising:**

a display device (in paragraph 38, *a display*); **memory** (in paragraph 30); **and a**

processor operatively connected to said display device and said memory (in

paragraphs 14, 30, and 38), **for executing code operative to produce a current**

display on said display device depicting a visualization of resources (in paragraph

1), **each said resource having zero or more attributes** (in paragraphs 15-16 and 35-

36), **and each said resource being a resource of interest if it has at least one**

attribute that matches predetermined criteria (in paragraphs 15-16 and 35-36), **said**

processor operative to perform the steps of: computing a future display area

zoomed in/out from said current display by an initial factor (in paragraph 15,

generates crop boundaries for each area of interest and in paragraph 26-27, *view that*

area of interest with a level of zoom selected automatically by the image processor or

selected by the user); **positioning said future display area over said visualization to**

include the largest possible number of resources of interest (in paragraph 28,

include as many of the areas of interest as possible); **and replacing said current**

display with a view of said future display area (in paragraph 14 and paragraph 29,

shows each of the views in turn).

As per claim 17, the rejection of claim 16 is incorporated and Slatter further

teaches **prior to replacing said current display, further zooming and positioning**

said future display area such that a resource of interest is proximate at least two

edges of said future display area (figure 2, paragraph 28, and paragraph 50).

As per claim 15, the rejection of claim 17 is incorporated and Slatter further

teaches **prior to replacing said current display: if said largest possible number of**

resources of interest that said future display area can encompass is at least two,

further zooming and positioning said future display area such that a resource of interest is proximate at least two edges of said future display area (figure 2, paragraph 28, and paragraph 50).

As per independent claim 18, Slatter teaches **a computer-readable medium that stores computer-executable process steps** (in paragraph 14, a computer readable medium storing the computer-executable process steps is inherent in order to perform the processing taught by Slatter) **for zooming in/out a current display of a visualization of resources** (in paragraph 1), **each said resource having zero or more attributes** (in paragraphs 15-16 and 35-36), **and each said resource being a resource of interest if it has at least one attribute that matches predetermined criteria** (in paragraphs 15-16 and 35-36), **said computer-executable process steps causing a computer to perform the steps of: computing a future display area zoomed in/out from said current display by an initial factor** (in paragraph 15, *generates crop boundaries for each area of interest* and in paragraph 26-27, *view that area of interest with a level of zoom selected automatically by the image processor* or selected by the user); **positioning said future display area over said visualization to include the largest possible number of resource of interest** (in paragraph 28, *include as many of the areas of interest as possible*); **and replacing said current display with a view of said future display area** (in paragraph 14 and paragraph 29, *shows each of the views in turn*).

As per claim 19, the rejection of claim 18 is incorporated and Slatter further teaches **prior to replacing said current display, further zooming and positioning**

said future display area such that a resource of interest is proximate at least two

edges of said future display area (figure 2, paragraph 28, and paragraph 50).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

10.   Claims 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Slatter (US 2003/0025812 A1) in view of Goldberg (US 6,341,183).

As per claim 3, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated. Slatter teaches **an initial**

factor (in paragraphs 26 and 28), but does not specifically teach **in the range from**

about 115% to about 130% for a zoom in, and in the range from about 70% to

about 85% for a zoom out. However, it was well known in the art at the time the

invention was made for a zoom factor to include the range from about 115% to about

130% for a zoom in, and the range from about 70% to about 85% for a zoom out.

Goldberg teaches zoom ranges from 25% to 800% (in column 5 lines 63-65), which

include the above ranges. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art

at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Slatter with those zoom

ranges to provide initial zooming in those ranges.

As per claim 4, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated. Slatter teaches **an initial**

factor (in paragraphs 26 and 28), but does not specifically teach **about 120% for a**

zoom in, and about 80% for a zoom out. However, it was well known in the art at the

time the invention was made for a zoom factor to include about 120% for a zoom in, and

about 80% for a zoom out. Goldberg teaches zoom ranges from 25% to 800% (in

column 5 lines 63-65), which include the above ranges. It would have been obvious to

one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the

teachings of Slatter with those zoom ranges to provide initial zooming in those ranges.

11.   Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Slatter

(US 2003/0025812 A1) in view of Smith (US 2003/0132944 A1).

As per claim 10, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated. Slatter teaches

attributes that match a predetermined criteria (in paragraphs 15-16 and 35-36), but

does not specifically teach **attributes selected by a user.** However, Smith teaches the

attributes selected by a user (in paragraphs 8, 136, and 145). It would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify

the teachings of Slatter with the user-selected attributes of Smith to provide the user

with control over which attributes are of interest.

Conclusion

12.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure.

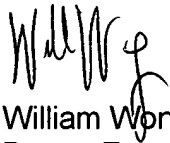| US 6029195 A	System for customized electronic identification of desirable objects	Herz; Frederick S. M.
US 6084598 A	Apparatus for modifying graphic images	Chekerylla; James
US 6249290 B1		Herndon; Kenneth et al.

	Object oriented zooming graphical user interface	
US 20010039579 A1	NETWORK SECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM	TRCKA, MILAN V. et al.
US 20020044696 A1	Region of interest high resolution reconstruction for display purposes and a novel bookmarking capability	Sirohey, Saad A. et al.
US 20020118214 A1	System and method for browsing node-link structures based on an estimated degree of interest	Card, Stuart K. et al.
US 20030063094 A1	Stationary semantic zooming	Smith, Randall B.
US 20050197763 A1	Key-based advanced navigation techniques	Robbins, Daniel C. et al.
US 20050195154 A1	Advanced navigation techniques for portable devices	Robbins, Daniel C. et al.

13.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William Wong whose telephone number is 571-270-1399. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-5:00 EST with every other Friday 7:30-4.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong can be reached on 571-272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

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USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

William Wong
Patent Examiner

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER